>

Title: Regarding US Nimitz Ship with Nuclear weapons docked in Chennai Port during 1st week of April, 2007.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on behalf of the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam headed by Thiru Vaiko, beloved leader of the Tamils.

Nimitz nuclear ship, a symbol of US military power, was given permission by the Indian Government to dock in the Chennai Port for seven days during the first week of April 2007. For the first time, this ship was full of nuclear weapons and was allowed to use the Chennai Port. [R77]

At that time, despite the Indian Government's statement, the officials of the ship did not deny the presence or absence of nuclear weapons in the ship.

The public at Chennai were very much worried, afraid and agitated against the arrival of the big nuclear warship with nuclear devices in the ship. The public at large feared very much over the chances of nuclear radiation, which may be causing permanent health hazards to the human beings.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your demand?

DR. C. KRISHNAN : By this, I wish to bring it to the notice of the Central Government the sorry and fearful feeling of the people of Tamil Nadu regarding arrival of the Nimitz Nuclear Ship during the first week of April, 2007.

I wish to state that in future, such sort of permissions may be avoided to prevent and protect the people from such thrilling and fearful experiences.